



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2021-N216; FXES11130200000-223-FF02ENEH00]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct activities intended to recover and enhance endangered species survival. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), prohibits certain activities that may impact endangered species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please submit your written comments by **INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER**.

ADDRESSES: *Document availability:* Request documents by phone or email: Beth Forbus, 505-248-6681, beth_forbus@fws.gov.

Comment submission: Submit comments by email to fw2_te_permits@fws.gov. Please specify the permit you are interested in by number (e.g., Application No. CS1234567).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beth Forbus, Supervisor, Classification and Restoration Division, 505-248-6681. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) prohibits activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that

allows such activity. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing, but also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

The ESA and our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at title 50, part 17, provide for issuing such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving endangered species.

A recovery permit we issue under the ESA, section 10(a)(1)(A), authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or enhance the species' propagation or survival. These activities often include such prohibited actions as capture and collection. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by any party who submits a request as specified in **ADDRESSES**. Releasing documents is subject to Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) requirements.

Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild. We invite local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies and the public to submit written data, views, or arguments with respect to these applications. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are those supported by quantitative information or studies. Please refer to the application number when submitting comments.

Application Number	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of Take	Permit Action
CS0080862	Harpo Faust, Saff Killingsworth; Tucson, Arizona	Acuña cactus (<i>Echinomastus erectocentrus</i> var. <i>acunensis</i>)	Arizona	Survey/monitor, collect	Harm, kill	New
TE037155	Bio-West, Inc.; Round Rock, Texas	Barton Springs salamander (<i>Eurycea sosorum</i>), Austin blind salamander (<i>Eurycea waterlooensis</i>), Ouachita rock pocketbook (<i>Arcidens wheeleri</i>), winged mapleleaf (<i>Quadrula fragosa</i>), Neosho mucket (<i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i>), Neosho madtom (<i>Noturus placidus</i>)	Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas,	Survey/monitor, capture, handle, collect, release	Harass, harm, kill	Amend
TE67491A	Permits West, Inc., Santa Fe, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>)	Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah	Survey/monitor	Harass, harm	Renew, amend
CS0082113	U.S. Geological Survey, New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Las Cruces, New Mexico	Gila chub (<i>Gila intermedia</i>), Gila topminnow (<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis occidentalis</i>), spikedace (<i>Meda fulgida</i>), desert pupfish (<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i>)	Arizona, New Mexico	Survey, capture, handle	Harass, harm, kill	New
TE006655	Logan Simpson Design, Inc., Tempe, Arizona	Black-footed ferret (<i>Mustela nigripes</i>), southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), Yuma clapper rail (<i>Rallus longirostris yumanensis</i>), Gila topminnow (<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis</i>), razorback sucker (<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>)	Arizona, New Mexico, Utah	Survey/monitor	Harass, harm	Renew, amend
TE25781D	Atkins International Inc., Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Dendroica chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, habitat assessment	Harass, harm	Renew, amend
CS0082163	Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program, San Antonio, Texas	Fountain darter (<i>Etheostoma fonticola</i>), Texas blind salamander (<i>Eurycea rathbuni</i>)	Texas	Capture, display for educational purposes	Harass, harm, capture	New
TE91694B	Cramer, Steven; San Antonio, Texas	Huston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>), Texas prairie dawn (<i>Hymenoxys texana</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew, amend
CS0081603	Bureau of Land Management, Phoenix, Arizona	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus</i>	Arizona	Survey/monitor	Harass, harm	New

		<i>americanus</i>), desert pupfish (<i>Cyprinodon macul</i>), Gila chub (<i>Gila intermedia</i>), Gila topminnow (<i>Poeciliopsis occidentalis occidentalis</i>), lesser long-nosed bat (<i>Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae</i>), Sonoran pronghorn (<i>Antilocapra americana sonoriensis</i>)				
CS0081216	Lamont, Megan; Giddings, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Dendroica chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence protocol surveys	Harass, harm	New
CS0079419	Tucson Audubon Society, Tucson, Arizona	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	Arizona, New Mexico	Presence/absence protocol surveys and habitat assessments	Harass, harm	New
TE11267C	Buschow, Marissa; Sugar Land, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Dendroica chrysoparia</i>), Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>)	Texas	Survey	Harass, harm	Amend
TE75679D	Ramirez, Alex; San Antonio, Texas	Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>)	Texas	Survey	Harass, harm	Amend
CS0080544	Cook, Leneka; San Antonio, Texas	Golden-cheeked Warbler (<i>Dendroica chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence protocol surveys and habitat assessments	Harass, harm	New
ESPER25781D	Atkins North America, Inc., Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Dendroica chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence protocol surveys and habitat assessments	Harass, harm	Amend
ESPER0018550	Mowad, Gary; Scottsdale, Arizona	Ocelot (<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>), jaguarundi (<i>Herpailurus yagouaroundi</i>)	Texas	Camera monitoring using scents/attractants	Harass, harm	New
ESPER0011772	U.S. Forest Service - Coronado National Forest; Tucson, Arizona	Beardless chinchweed (<i>Pectis imberbis</i>)	Arizona	Seed collection	Collect	Amend
ESPER0020702	National Audubon Society - Arizona; Phoenix, Arizona	Yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>), Yuma clapper rail (<i>Rallus longirostris yumanensis</i>)	Arizona	Survey/monitor	Harass, harm	Amend
ESPER0007529	U.S. Forest Service - Gila National Forest; Silver City, New Mexico	Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>), Gila chub (<i>Gila intermedia</i>), loach minnow (<i>Tiaroga cobitis</i>), spikedace (<i>Meda fulgida</i>), northern Mexican gartersnake (<i>Thamnophis eques megalops</i>), narrow-headed gartersnake (<i>Thamnophis rufipunctatus</i>), southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>)	New Mexico	Survey/monitor, capture/handle	Harass, harm	New

ESPER0019716P	Boeing, Wiebke; Las Cruces, New Mexico	Pecos assiminea (<i>Assiminea pecos</i>)	New Mexico	Survey/monitor, capture	Harass, harm	New
ESPER0020647	National Park Service – Bandelier National Monument; Los Alamos, New Mexico	Jemez Mountains salamander (<i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i>)	New Mexico	Survey/monitor	Harass, harm	Renew
ESPER822908	Caesar Kleburg Wildlife Research Institute; Kingsville, Texas	Ocelot (<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>)	Texas	Trap, presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Amy L. Lueders,
Regional Director, Southwest Region,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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